



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

incompatibility with a government like our own. If our government should follow in all its dealings with other nations the justice which Washington recommended it would find therein a bulwark of defence which would remove all necessity of standing armies and of navies. Washington's truest greatness, as Charles Sumner said of him, did not lie in his bravery and endurance as a soldier, but in something very different from these, and all true patriotism must rest on principles such as those which made it impossible for him to glory in war and bloodshed, or to desire military glory for his country.

#### HARRISON'S LETTER TO THE "CENTURY."

Ex-President Harrison, in reply to a request from the Editor, has written an open letter to the *Century* strongly advocating military drill in all the schools and colleges of the country. He says it would be good for the boys, good for the schools and good for the country, and in a racy, sometimes almost flippant way, he proceeds to give reasons for this position.

First, military drill develops the whole body, gives a free, erect, graceful carriage. This has often been said but never proved. It is one of the stock arguments of those favoring the drill. That military drill gives a certain amount of valuable physical development everyone admits. But this can be much better acquired without the counter-acting evils. What Mr. Harrison says of athletics is largely true, but any one who is acquainted with the calisthenic systems of the gymnasiums knows that they give a much more natural development than the military drill. The position of the body in the military drill is stiff and unnatural and can not be maintained long. Hence the notorious fact that soldiers when they have broken ranks are among the most careless about their bodily positions. So true is this that if one were to try to select from an ordinary crowd of men anywhere those who had been soldiers he could not do it. It is our judgment, after long observation, that men who have been educated in the home, in the schools, and in society in the ordinary way are even superior in bodily form and carriage to those who have had a soldier's training. It is easy to assume that the position and carriage of the soldier when on duty are carried with him into ordinary life, but a moment's careful reflection must convince any one that this is not true.

We have not time in this brief note to do more than refer to the other fallacies found in Mr. Harrison's letter. His reference to our poor preparation for the civil war is interesting. Does he not know that if all the citizens of the country had been previously trained to the art of war the South would have reaped as much advantage from it as the North, and perhaps even more, since they would have been able to make their first blow so much more powerful?

We are sorry to see so noble and distinguished a citizen as ex-President Harrison advocating what, in the long run, if carried out, must result in the essential militarization of our people. He seems to be full of anxiety lest a chief part of our business in the future may be that of fighting other nations who are to come pouncing down upon us "like a thief in the night;" whereas everything indicates that we shall have little or no use for trained men in the future, if we do not make the occasion ourselves by training our people into a fighting spirit and love of war. We have had no war with a foreign country for more than eighty years, except that with Mexico which we brought on by our own wickedness. We ought to proceed now on the theory that we shall have no more with any country, and train our boys to the proper business of American citizens. Are we to allow the militarism of the old world, with all its unnumbered curses, to cast its deadly spell over our country? Alas! that so many allow themselves to be blinded to its stealthy approaches!

#### PEACE IN THE PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

One of the things most characteristic of the Parliament of Religions was its contribution to the cause of peace. This it made not only in the fine exhibition of brotherliness which characterized its proceedings, but also in the allusions of many distinguished speakers to the desirability of the peace of the world and to their belief in its early coming. This great gathering at Chicago might almost as well have been called the World's Parliament of Peace, for such it was in fact, if not in name. No such representative body of citizens from all the nations ever before came together and proved actually that men may discuss and consider together the highest and most difficult themes in the spirit of real love and brotherhood. Its influence has already been immense. The millennium is many years nearer than it was six months ago.

From the admirable History of the Parliament, edited by Dr. John Henry Barrows, whose distinguished service to the cause of human brotherhood deserves universal and lasting recognition, we cull a few of the direct allusions to the peace of the world. One of the purposes for which the Parliament was called was stated to be "to bring the nations of the earth into a more friendly fellowship, in the hope of securing permanent international peace." Rev. George Sargeant, at one time President of the Western Methodist Conference of the West Indies, wrote his hope that "the contemplated Parliament will have a blessed effect upon the peace of the world." Rev. James Kerr of Glasgow wrote that such a Parliament "must draw world-wide attention to the song of the heavenly host on the plains of Bethlehem."